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HOUSE BILL 1374 By
Sands

SENATE BILL 1651
By Elsea

AN ACT to amend the Scenic Rivers Act, Part 1 of
Chapter 13 of Title 11

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 11-13-104 is amended by adding the following language under "Class I- Natural River Areas" so as to maintain the items in alphabetical order:

Caney Fork River – That continuous segment of the Caney Fork River that lies between the upstream end and the downstream end of the Bridgestone/Firestone Centennial Wilderness Area.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 11-13-104 is further amended by adding the following language under "Class II- Pastoral River Areas" so as to maintain the items in alphabetical order:

Duck River -- That segment of the Duck River beginning at Iron Bridge Road at river mile 136.4 extending continuously to a point upstream at river mile 165.9 near Sharps Corner Church on Tugas Bend.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 11-13-108 is amended by deleting the first sentence and substituting instead the following:

As soon as practicable after a river, or a segment of a river, has been made a part of the scenic rivers system, the Commissioner of Environment and Conservation shall engage in a

program of outreach and education of the property owners in the area and the local community to explain the program and the environmental and economic benefits it affords. The Commissioner shall then, using sound discretion and considering all relevant circumstances, establish the location and the duration of the general boundary of the scenic river area associated with the river or river segment. If the proposed boundary of the scenic river area includes private property, the State shall obtain the notarized consent of the private landowner before establishing the boundary. The General Assembly recognizes that the scenic rivers will have the greatest protection if there is no limit on the duration of the boundary; however the rivers will have more protection from a boundary set for a term of years than they will have if no boundary is established. In setting the duration of the boundary, the Commissioner shall strive to obtain the greatest degree of protection possible for the scenic rivers.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.